



THE STATE OF UTAH BROADBAND PROJECT

UTAH BROADBAND ADVISORY COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 27, 2014

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Utah State Capitol Building Board Room

Attendees:

Kelleigh Cole, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development
Amie Parker, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development
Heather Webster, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development
Jeff Van Hulten, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development
Bert Granberg, Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center
Jessie Pechmann, Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center
John Harvey, Utah Public Service Commission
Jeff Egly, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Dennis Sampson, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Sabrina Scott, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Melinda Brereton, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Sharon Bertelsen, Ballard Spahr, LLP
Kira Slawson, Blackburn & Stoll, LC
Lee Chaplin, EDCUtah
Douglas Meredith, John Staurulakis, Inc.
David Ream, U.S. Forest Service
Ryan Yonk, Utah State University
Wilf Sommerkorn, Salt Lake City
Nole Walkingshaw, Salt Lake City
Janice Lew, Salt Lake City
Mitch Zundel, Box Elder County
Bill Duncan, Utah Division of Public Utilities
Rick Raile, Emigration Canyon Council
Matt Hamlin, Tonaquint Networks
Roger Tew, Utah League of Cities and Towns
Janet Van Eerden, Verizon Wireless
John Lafferre, Verizon Wireless

Tara Thue, AT&T
Ralph Vigil, CenturyLink
Eric Isom, CenturyLink
Georganne Weidenbach, CenturyLink
Josef Wavra, Enterprise Technologies
Dave Ryan, Strata Networks
Tyler Rasmussen, Strata Networks
Steve Proctor, Utah Communication Authority
Jack Walkenhorst, All West Communications
Matt Weller, All West Communications
Michael Lane, Sprint
Angie Welling, Google
Brock Johansen, Emery Telecom
Jared Anderson, Emery Telecom
Steve Proper, Comcast
Willis Kenner, Comcast
Diane Bradshaw, Direct Communications
Lynn Beecher, Skywire Fiber
Mike Giles, Frontier Communications
Chad Sundloft, T-Mobile
Todd Shingleton, T-Mobile
Rachel Dees, Level 3 Communications
Madeline Greymountain, Confederated Tribe of Goshute
Melissa Paraibe, Tsosie Law
Ryan Marriott, Americom
Terrance Bride, Ogden City

Kelleigh Cole, Manager of the Utah Broadband Project, updated the council on current edits for the Utah Broadband Plan. The most notable change to the plan was offered by Shirlee Silversmith, Director of the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, to add a page related to broadband planning for Native American Tribes in Utah. The Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) also provided edits which were added to the current version where it discusses broadband access to schools, libraries and healthcare. The latest version contains the final text and provides a current list of contributors. The release date for the Broadband Plan is anticipated for late September or early October.

Dennis Sampson, Associate Director for UETN, gave an update on the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) E-Rate Modernization Order. The FCC has adopted the state educational technology recommendations for broadband access in schools with a 100 megabyte connection per 1000 students as the standard. Utilization of UETN's network is increasing throughout the state, and standards will need to be increased as the demand continues to grow. One concern of the new E-Rate Modernization Order is the classification of urban and rural. UETN is encouraging stakeholders to submit a Petition for Reconsideration to the FCC regarding this new classification. Additionally, broadband will be supported by E-Rate, while voice services are being phased out.

Kira Slawson, Blackburn & Stoll, told the Council the FCC and the National Cable and Television Association (NCTA) have met and are concerned that adoption of census bureau numbers may have unintended consequences. The FCC may issue an erratum which would nullify the need for a Petition for Reconsideration. Due to the importance and need of broadband, UETN is advocating for an increase in funding for broadband across the nation. At this time, the FCC has not proposed a funding increase.

Steve Proctor, Utah Communication Authority (UCA), gave an overview of the changes to UCA in the 2014 legislative session. The Utah 911 Committee, the Statewide Communications and Interoperability Committee, radio services from the Department of Technology Services (DTS) and the Utah Communications Agency Network were combined to form UCA. These departments and resources were combined to increase collaboration and efficiency. Part of the bill included a task force to study what funding is needed, what funding options are available and how to support public safety networks. The committee is made from various members of the legislature, state government officials and local government officials.

Proctor also gave an update regarding FirstNet. FirstNet is the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NTSBN) sponsored by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Each state has received a grant to begin the process of outreach and education on FirstNet. Currently, they are developing a plan for what the needs are and how to reach those needs for public safety in Utah.

Ryan Yonk, Research Director at Utah State University (USU), presented an overview of the 2014 Demand Survey. The purpose of this survey was to understand the barriers to home broadband adoption. To achieve this goal, a public opinion survey was conducted by telephone of 500 Utahns resulting in over 27,000 total calls made. The survey found that the broadband nonadopter in Utah does not look like the typical nonadopter from research that has been done across the nation. The report discovered that one of the reasons nonadopters in Utah have not subscribed to services is that they believe that they don't need the Internet or are not interested in using it.

Bert Granberg, Director of Utah's Automated Geographic Reference Center (AGRC), presented the Maps of the Month for May, June and July. May's Map of the Month focused on visitor centers at tourist attractions throughout Utah. Included on the map are mobile telephone speeds for each destination along with the highest fixed broadband speed to the nearest community of each destination. June's Map of the Month looked at communities in Utah that still have relatively slow broadband speeds. This map was in response to the Community Connect funding program which focuses on unserved and underserved communities in the nation. There are currently many areas of Utah that are underserved, but do not meet the requirements of the Community Connect Grant. Many of the communities on this map are just above the standard set by the Community Connect Program, which is a combined upload and download speed of 3 Mbps for residential services. July's Map of the Month focuses on broadband services in and around Tribal lands. August's Map of the Month focused on how the data collection by

the FCC (Form 477) going forward will be displayed on the new National Broadband Map versus the current state map. The FCC will collect actual speeds, with fixed wireless technologies data collection resulting in more aggregated reporting by census block rather than an actual footprint. Speeds will be more refined but geography will be more generalized.

Rick Raile, Chairman for the Emigration Canyon Council, discussed broadband coverage problems that exist in Emigration Canyon. A proposal to widen the road and provide a bike lane is currently underway, and a request and feedback was made for all parties and providers to be involved in inserting broadband infrastructure and empty conduit during the road expansion process.

Wilf Sommerkorn, Planning Director for Salt Lake City, discussed the history of utility boxes throughout Salt Lake City. Currently, Salt Lake City is proposing a new process to upgrade the utility boxes within the city limits. Janice Lew, Salt Lake City, gave an overview of the new streamlined process. The City wants to incentivize utility boxes that are less visible or hidden from mainstream view, for example, in alleyways. The goal is to revise the permitting process by finding an unobtrusive size threshold for the boxes and give right-of-way access to the public. Salt Lake City requests any feedback, questions or concerns that the Council or the public may have.

Mitch Zundel, Box Elder County, gave an update on mobile broadband access in Grouse Creek in Box Elder County. The lack of coverage creates a problem with public safety. The County would like feedback on ideas to implement infrastructure for mobile services to increase public safety and economic development.